An Accompt of ſome Books.

1. *Nicolai Mercatoris Holſati*, è Soc. Regia, ***INSTITUTIONUM ASTRONOMICARUM Libri duo*, *de* MOTU *ASTRORUM Communi & Proprio, ſecundùm* HYPOTHESES *Veterum & Recentiorum præcipuas; deq; Hypotheſeωn ex Obſervatis conſtructione: cum TABULIS TYCHONIANIS Solaribus, Lunaribus, Lunæ-Solaribus, & RUDOLPHINIS, Solis, Fixarum, & quinq; Errantium, earumq; Uſu, præceptis & exemplis commonſtrato: ſubnexâ Appendice eorum, quæ noviſſimis temporibus cælitus innotuerunt.*** Londini, 1676. *in* 8o.

THis Learned and Induſtrious Mathematician hath made it his buſineſs to comprehend in theſe *Inſtitutions* the Sum and Subſtance of Aſtronomy: And although many Authors before him have done very worthily in treating of this Science, particularly *Mæſtlinus*, *Keplerus*, *Ricciolo*, and *Gaſſendus*; yet hath He purſued ſeveral things differently from others, and *inſiſted* on ſuch particulars, as he thought *moſt* pertinent to *his* purpoſe. For, beſides the Repreſentation of the main Uſe of both the Globes in divers conſiderable Problems, and the Trigonometrical Calculation employed in the doctrine of the Sphere; he hath with a peculiar diligence explained the matter of the *Equation of Time* in both the *Ptolomæan* and *Copernican* Syſteme, as alſo the *Lunar* Hypotheſis of *Tycho*, and the *Elliptical* of the Planets: Nor hath he been leſs ſolicitous in teaching the way of raiſing *Hypotheſes* from *Obſervations*, and in delivering the *calculus* of the Celeſtial Motions from the moſt approv'd Tables: Explaining alſo with a not ordinary exactneſs the *Keplerian* Hypotheſis of the Planets, and ſubjoyning thereto the Aſtronomical Hypotheſes of *Ward*, *Bullialdus*, and *his own*, which laſt he eſteems New, and according to which he teaches how to make a *calculus à priori*, comparing the ſame with good Obſervations. The whole he concludes with the exhibition of the late Diſcoveries made in the Heavens. So that it ſeems to be a work very uſeful for all Students of Aſtronomy, both laying the true foundation of this Science, and directing the Lovers thereof to thoſe particulars, that may render them accompliſhed in the ſame.

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II. *Obſervations ſur les* EAUX MINERALES *de pluſieurs Provinces de* France, *faites en l'Academie Royale des Sciences, en l'annee* 1670, *&* 1671. *par le Sieur* du Clos, *Conſeiller & Medecin ordinaire du Roy, de la dite Academie.* A Paris. 1675. *in* 12°.

THE *Royal Pariſian Academy*, reſolving to ſearch into the Qualities of the moſt conſiderable *Mineral waters* of *France*, did not, it ſeems, proceed to this *examen* without great deliberation; the reaſons of the Uſefulneſs of theſe waters for the recovery of the Health of many ſick perſons, being ballanced by thoſe of the difficulty of knowing the Cauſes of the proprieties of the ſaid waters, depending particularly upon the mixtures of certain bodies they meet with in their paſſages through the Earth, and in the cavities or interſtices of Rocks, and which are divers and very numerous, ſuch as Vapors, Juyces, Salts, Earths, *&c.*

They were aware, that the greateſt part of thoſe matters, with which Mineral waters may be impregnated, are not diſcern'd in them, and that the different mixture which is made of many of them together, may conſtitute ſo many kinds of Mineral waters, ſalubrious or pernicious, that it ſeems impoſſible to know them all and to determine them. The Waters of the ſame Springs may, *ſay they*, at different times receive notable alterations by new mixtures, or by the ceſſation of thoſe that were made before.

They think it not likely, that the Waters, called *Mineral*, are produced of the *ſole Mineral Vapors* condenſed, and that in the Earth there are Mines in that abundance as continually to furniſh Vapors capable, when condenſed, to entertain and feed the perpetual courſe of thoſe waters in Springs that dry not up: But they Judge, that ſome *Mineral* Vapors or Exhalations mix themſelves with the Common waters that traverſe the Earth where they are, and are condenſed, and that theſe waters remain impregnated with their qualities, and with ſome volatil Salts not concreted, elevated in thoſe dry Exhalations, or in thoſe moiſt Vapors.

They find, that the diſcerning of the Qualities of thoſe Exhalations and Vapors is not eaſie; that the diverſity of their matter is very great; that the occurſion of their mixtures is caſual; that the conditions of the places where they paſs and where they are detained, are not manifeſt; and that the alterations which they produce in the waters, into which they inſinuate themſelves, are not always well known.

They

They conſider alſo, that there is no leſs difficulty in knowing and diſcerning the *Juyces* that may be mingled with the *Mineral* waters,and particularly thoſe that receive no Concretion,and that do not communicate to theſe waters any *ſenſible* quality: For,thoſe liquid and totally volatil Juyces do paſs away in the diſtillation with the matter of the water,and do not manifeſt themſelves but by ſuch effects as *ſimple* water cannot produce.

They note further, that thoſe Juyces which are called *Concrete*, becauſe they are condenſable and reſoluble, leave ſediments that render them viſible and palpable after the diſtillation or evaporation of the water wherewith they are mixed ; but that 'tis difficult to diſcern the ſpecies and proprieties of them, if they have not ſome reſemblance with thoſe that are known, or if there be many of them together.

As to *Salts* and *Earths*,they look upon them as the moſt ſenſible and the moſt common matters of thoſe that are mixed in the waters of Fountains and Wells;ſo that there is almoſt no Earth which is not participant of ſome Salt diſſoluble in the waters that paſs through ; and the current of thoſe waters doth alſo carry always with it ſome fine and ſubtil Earth. But though theſe are the ſubſtances that are moſt manifeſt in theſe waters;yet they find,that the knowledge of theſe Salts and Earths mixed in the waters is not always ſo diſtinct as to enable us to determine the *ſpecies*, and to give a certain Judgement of their proprieties.

They obſerve further, that there are few Concrete Salts that are known to us;and that there may be many that have nothing like to *Common Salt*,*Nitre*, *Allom* and *Vitriol*,which are the four moſt vulgar of the concrete Mineral Salts.Thoſe,whoſe diſpoſition to concretion is not finiſh't , and which are yet embrionated and as 'twere in their ſeminality or firſt Being, are leſs knowable in that ſtate ; and thoſe that are more formed and already concreted or capable of concretion, have not ſimple and homogeneous ſubſtances in each *ſpecies*.

The Salt, that is called *Common-Salt*, is obſerv'd to have two different portions mixed together;the *one* is condenſed and cryſtalliſed by cold and in moiſture, after the evaporation of a part of the water wherein this Salt hath been diſſolved;the other will not be cryſtalliſed nor condenſed but by a total evaporation of the reſt of the water. The portion that's cryſtalliſed by cold and in moiſture, is the moſt ſulphureous, and by its ſulphureity it will mixe it ſelf with the ſulphureous ſalt of calcined Tartar reſolved in the moiſt Air, or in common water, without turbidneſs and without coagulation: But that portion of this common ſalt, which is not condenſed but by the total evaporation of the water that had diſſolved it, hath an acidity that inſtantly coagulates the ſalt of Tartar reſolved, and all other fixed Salts that are ſulphureous and nitrous.

The *Vitriol*, which in a moiſt Air yields an effloreſcence upon ſulphureous marcaſites, hath likewiſe a juicy portion, condenſable only by the total evaporation of its aqueous humidity, and being of a very acrimonious taſte, and of an unctuous conſiſtence, and quickly reſoluble in a moiſt Air; which juicy portion is very different from that which it condenſeth firſt & cryſtalliſeth by cold in the water where this vitriol hath been diſſolved. Theſe cryſtals are pure vitriol, acid-auſtere, of which much mineral earth precipitates by the mixture of ſulphureous and nitrous ſalts, with which the other portion will mixe it ſelf without turbidneſs, not having, like the former, that acidity upon which the ſulphureous ſalts can work: Which is otherwiſe in common ſalt, of which the firſt portion is the moſt ſulphureous, and the ſecond the moſt acid.

True *Nitre* is likewiſe compoſed of two different ſaline portions; the one more ſulphureous, which cryſtalliſeth by cold, and in moiſture; and the other, which remains diſſolved after this cryſtalliſation, and is not condenſed but by a heat ſtrong enough to expel all diſſolutive humidity, is leſs ſulphureous, and hath ſome acidity, which the other hath not.

The *firſt Beings* or *Embrions* of mineral ſalts are nothing but vapours, or juices not concreted, totally vaporable; of which ſome may be condenſed and in part fixed by the action of fire, or diſingaged from their matrixes, and made capable of concretion by means of the Air; which is obſerv'd in certain Nitrous, Aluminous & Vitriolique ſalts. The ſulphureous ſalt w^{ch} is found in the lime of certain hard ſtones burnt in the fire, and which is a ſpecies of true Nitre, had its Seminal Being in thoſe crude ſtones; and in that ſtate of its firſt Being, it is very different from that which it acquires by the fire, which from Cold and Coagulative, changes it into Cauſtique and Reſolutive. This cold and coagulative quality of this ſtony ſalt in its firſt Being, manifeſts it ſelf enough in the waters of certain Rock-ſprings, which are very limpid and cold, and breed cold and ſcirrhous tumors under their throats that ordinarily drink of them. The Seminal ſubſtance of ſtony Salt is made nitrous, ſulphureous, cauſtique and reſolutive by the fire, which was able to exalt it, but not able to produce it in calcining theſe ſtones, no more than that of burnt ſhels of Oyſters, of which alſo a lime is made, which hath not leſs of ſulphureous ſalt in it. This embrionated ſalt in lime-ſtones is a ſtony juice, which may mix it ſelf with the waters that paſs between the beds & interſtices of thoſe ſtones in the rocks, but which is not eaſily diſcerned in waters that are impregnated therewith.

The Seminal Being of *Allum* and that of *Vitriol* muſt alſo be in the matters from whence theſe ſpecies of Salts are extracted by the means of water, after their calcination in the Fire, and their maceration in the Air. The Fire and Air that have exalted them, could not produce them. Neither the ſeminal ſubſtance of Allum in Aluminous ſtones, nor that of Vitriol in ſulphureous marcaſites, are in that ſtate manifeſt to our ſenſes, and often they come not to be known in Mineral waters but by ſome effects, and that without certainty, becauſe thoſe may be equivocal.

All theſe varieties of Mineral ſalts, embrionate, form'd, cryſtallin, juicy, ſulphureous, non-ſulphureous, of the firſt and ſecond concretion; thoſe of their genus's, ſpecies's, mixtures, proportions, alterations, *&c.* render difficult and uncertain the judgment concerning the proprieties of the waters that partake of them.

Again, concerning thoſe *Subtile Earths*, which do alſo mixe themſelves in Mineral waters, they may alſo be of different ſorts, difficult to diſcern: Some of them are found of different colours, white, gray, yellowiſh, reddiſh, brown; and of different qualities, ſome being diſſoluble in diſtilled Vinegar, others indiſſoluble; ſome fuſible, others not fuſible by the fire, where they take ſeveral colours; ſome are marly, others argillaceous, others cretaceous; ſome bolar, ſome ſandy, ſome talky, ſome limy; others there are that are produced by the concretion of certain juices, ſaline or ſulphureous, others not; ſome are ſimply mineral, others metallique. Moſt of theſe ſorts not being eaſie to be diſcerned ſeparately, they will be leſs ſo when they are mixt with one another.

The ſimple infuſions of certain ſulphureous mineral Earths may notably alter the waters of Wells and Fountains, without having any thing of thoſe Earths remaining in their ſediments after diſtillation; in like manner as nothing is ſeen in certain liquours rendred vomitif by the ſole infuſion of Antimony.

The *hot* Mineral waters may contract ſome alteration from the ſulphureous and bituminous matters,which they meet with in their courſe; for theſe matters partake of certain ſubtil ſalts, which thoſe waters may reſolve and carry away with them.

Some *Cold* or *Tepid* mineral waters have a ſharpiſh or vinous taſte, which is not obſerved in any of thoſe that are conſiderably hot: But this taſte is ſo eaſie loſt upon the leaſt heat, and even in the free Air, that 'tis hard to know what it is that produces it. It is not only found in waters that are eſteem'd to be Aluminous and Vitriolate, but alſo in thoſe that are manifeſtly Nitrous, and which abound in Sulphureous Salt oppoſit to Acids.

The Cauſes of the Heat of ſome Mineral waters are little known. There is reaſon to doubt,whether there be Subterraneous fires capable to heat them; or whether they have received this heat by the exhalations of ſome Mineral juyces that are fermentable,or in which ſome effervefcence is made by the mixture of other juyces.

All theſe difficulties have retarded the publication of theſe Obſervations, which,it ſeems, this *Royal Academy* hath been theſe four Years a making upon the waters, that have been ſent them from divers Provinces of *France*, and that have undergone their examen as occaſion hath ſerv'd for it.

Having premiſed theſe particulars, to manifeſt the Difficulty and nicety of this kind of reſearch; they ſubjoyn the Method employ'd in this examination; which indeed is made with that conſideration that becomes the wiſdom and care of that Illuſtrious Body, and is adapted to lead them into a greater knowledg of thoſe waters,than thoſe Authors had that have hitherto written of them, and that very often have not judg'd of them but by the effects, which might be referr'd to divers cauſes.

Now, according to this *Examen* made upon a great number of waters from different Springs, both hot and cold,they have particularly obſerv'd *Salts* and *Earths* of divers qualities, and in different quantities.

The *Salts*, which condenſed after diſtillation, or a ſlow evaporation of the waters, were brought before them, are here reduced to two ſorts; *viz.* The *one* is the *Nitre* of the Antients, w^ch^ they deſcribe to be a ſulphureous mineral Salt, like to the *Alcali* of Plants; the *other*, the *Common Salt* conſider'd in either of its different portions, or according to the commixture of both together: And 'tis remarkable, me thinks, that in none of thoſe waters there

there appear'd any Allum, or true Vitriol, except the water of *Vahls* in *Dauphine*, which yielded a ſalt that had ſome reſemblance to *white Vitriol.*

They take notice, that they did not much apply themſelves to obſerve the *Forms* and *Figures* of each of thoſe Salts they met with in their condenſations, becauſe they found them vary in *the ſame* Salts, according to the manner and degree of the evaporation of the water wherein they were diſſolved for refinement.

As to the *Earths* that were found in different quantities in the waters here examin'd; they acknowledg likewiſe, that the particular diſcernment of their *ſpecies's* was yet leſs eaſie than that of the *ſpecies* of Salts. Some of thoſe Earths were white, ſome gray, ſome rediſh; and in the evaporation of all thoſe waters, their terreſtrial parts form'd themſelves diverſly; ſome into floting filmes, ſome into flocks, ſome into mucilages; others into little clods; others into ſmall grains of ſands; others into fine brown powder: Again, ſome diſſolved almoſt wholly in diſtilled vinegar, with ſome effervesſcence; ſome diſſolved but in part, ſome not at all; others only gave to the diſtilled vinegar a high tincture of hyacinth, wch was loſt in few daies: Again, the fire made ſome of theſe Earths change colour, others not; and ſome of them it calcined, and vitrified others.

Theſe obſervations of the qualities, quantities, differences and agreements of the Salts and Earths of ſo many waters, examin'd by theſe *Philoſophers*, (of which a particular Hiſtory and account is here given) may be very uſeful & ſerviceable to thoſe Phyſitians that adviſe the uſe of them, the better to make choice of thoſe, which by reaſon of the mixture of thoſe more ſenſible mineral matters may ſute with their intentions for the reſtoring of many Patients to their former health.

For a concluſion of this Hiſtory, they give us ſome Advertiſements and Corollaries, worthy indeed to be taken notice of; as,

1. That the great quantity of mineral waters, which Phyſicians make thoſe to drink, to whom they preſcribe them for the cure of certain contumacious diſeaſes that will not yield to ordinary remedies, gives us occaſion to judg, that the chief effect, which they make us expect from them, is the cleanſing of the *viſcera* by this internal ablution,: And that this effect is conſiderable, becauſe moſt of Chronical diſeaſes come from the obſtruction of the *viſcera*, which this great quantitie of mineral drink may remove. Mean

time 'tis to be ſear'd,that few Phyſicians take pains to ſearch into the *particular* qualities of theſe waters,which yet are very differing,and conſiderable enough to induce them to an endeavour to know them well, that ſo they may make a better uſe of them,according to the differences of Diſeaſes,and the different conſtitution of the Diſeaſed. Now theſe *Mineral* waters may have different particular qualities upon this account alſo,that ſome of them come from places leſs diſtant from the ſurface of the Earth, others from deeper ones. The *former*,traverſing Earths leſs compact, do reſolve the Salts they there meet with,and charge themſelves with ſome of the ſubtile terreſtrial particles found in them, by making them evaporate. The *later*, being rarified in the depths of the Earth,whence they are elevated,do eaſily receive the mixtures of Mineral exhalations and vapours, which are frequent in thoſe inner receſſes; but thoſe mixtures often not being diſcerned in waters carried away from their Sources,neither by the ſcent, nor by the taſte,cannot be known but by the effects, which to refer to their cauſes is not alwaies ſo eaſie, nor ſo certain.

2. That the knowledg here given of the Salts and Earths of many Mineral waters will not fully ſatisfie the curioſity of thoſe, that would likewiſe be inform'd of the other cauſes of the proprieties of thoſe waters;foraſmuch as that, beſides the mixture of the concrete matters found therein, there may alſo be found in them matters not concreted,ſo ſubtile and volatil,that there remains nothing in the ſediments,that may come to be known to differ from the Salts and Earths, and which is not found any more in what paſſes by diſtillation. That ſharp and vinous taſte,above mentioned, which is loſt in the Air and by heat,muſt have for its ſubject a ſpirituous & very volatil matter; which were worth the being known. Again,the heat which ſome waters have in their Sources, and at their iſſuing out of the Earth, may be aſcribed to ſome hot vapours, that have mixed themſelves with them in their courſe within the ſubterraneous depths,where the cold of the Air hath no free acceſs: And certain particular effects of thoſe waters upon divers ſubjects give occaſion to judg, that they are not pure and uncompounded. And into theſe things this *Royal Aſſembly* are reſolved to make further inquiries, both for the ſatisfaction of the Curious, and the benefit of the Publick. 3. Mean time the Obſervations of the *Salts* and *Earths* of theſe waters may, in their opinion, ſerve both in Phyſick and in mechanical Arts, to make us capable to judg of the agreeableneſs of ſome of theſe waters for certain uſes and emploiments. The two kinds of Salts, to which they have reduced thoſe of the Mineral waters of *France*, may have differences, which may divide each of thoſe kinds into many *ſpecies*, as they have obſerv'd in the Salts that are extracted out of the Aſhes of divers Plants,which they have noted to be like, ſome to true Nitre, others to Common Salt, and to retain the participation of the ſpecifique proprieties of their ſubjects. Again,ſome of the Earths found with the Salts in the ſediments of Mineral waters evaporated or diſtilled,may alſo have particular uſes, according to their differences. Some *German* Phyſicians have obſerv'd, that the white Earth of the Mineral waters of *Swalbach* is purgative:Some bottles of it were brought to the *Pariſian Academy*,of a vinous

and

and ſtrong taſte: The Salt of its ſediment was nitrous, and made Sublimate diſſolved in common water to precipitate in a Mother of pearl colour, as the *Alcalies* of Plants do. The Earth ſeparated from this ſediment was white like *Creta*; but there was not enough to try its purging virtue. The true Nitre of the Antients being ſulphureous, and reſembling the Plants of vegetables, hath, as they have, this faculty of moving the belly. And that white Earth, which is found with the Nitrous Salts of the Mineral waters, may participate of the ſame quality, even as the calx of Salt of Tartar, coagulated by the ſecond Salt of Sea-water, retains ſome proprieties of its Salt, though it be inſipid, and not diſſoluble in water, but only in acid liquours, as is diſtilled vinegar, which diſſolves it with an effervеſcence, which hath likewiſe been obſerv'd in many white Earths of *Nitrous* Mineral waters.

4. As to the *Taſtes* of theſe waters tranſported, they could only judg of them by what they found when they received them: Thoſe that are at the Spring-head may diſcern them better, eſpecially thoſe that are ſharp and vinous, and whoſe taſte decayes or is loſt when they are kept, or expoſed to the Air. They may alſo better come to know the degrees of their Coloration by the powder of Galls, by Oak-leaves, and the like; and judg more exactly of their conſiſtence and weight. Which particulars could not be ſo well obſerv'd at ſuch a diſtance, at which great changes may have befal'n the waters in ſeveral reſpects.

5. Concerning that Vaporous matter of the ſharp and vinous Mineral waters; *that* ſeems to be the firſt Being of the Mineral ſulphur, and of the concretions thence reſulting. There are found Earths impregnated with this acid matter, being vaporo-ſulphureous, of the concretion whereof ſomtimes are made ſulphureous and vitriolique Minerals. And often there is not any Mineral concret made that is known, in thoſe Earths, where no Mineral ſulphur, nor Vitriol, nor Metal is found. This vaporous and indigeſted Mineral matter may very well be the principle of Vitriol; but in its firſt ſtate it can't be a vitriolique production, if it be found in Earths where there is as yet no vitriol. It is more eaſy to obſerve it in its products, when it hath received ſome mineral concretion. The moiſt Air penetrating into the Mine-ſtones that are inſipid, but impregnated with a Mineral ſulphur, which makes it ſelf ſufficiently perceived when it is diſingag'd by fire, manifeſts to the ſenſe a ſulphureous acidity, which was not perceiv'd in it. And of the concret ſulphur of thoſe Mine-ſtones or Marcaſites, penetrated by the moiſt Air, there is form'd a vitriolique concret, which is the product of this Mineral ſulphur, the principle of which was an acid and very vaporous matter. This ſubtile, vaporous, acid matter doth not alwaies produce vitriolique concrets; it hapning in many ſoils, that for want of neceſſary diſpoſitions it remains in its firſt ſtate. We have obſerved in many waters impregnated with this acid vapour, that for all this there was not any true vitriol in it, nor any thing that had any reſemblance to Allum, and that the Salt which remain'd in their ſediment was ſuch Nitre as is deſcribed by the Antients, and which differs as much from Vitriol and Allum, as do the Alcalies or ſulphureous fixed Salts of Plants.

The Salts,Vitriols and Alums,and other concrets reſoluble in water,may be ſo mingled in the Mineral waters,as not to be well perceived there but in their ſediments; but the ſulphurs and Bitums are alwaies obvious to be diſcerned in the waters wherein they are, becauſe they reſide in them, or ſwim on them, not being capable to be mixed with them as Salts are. Of theſe we have perceived none in the waters that were ſent us. Thoſe that were very hot in their ſources, did not appear to us more ſulphureous, or more bituminous than the other. And if you meet with Sulphur or Bitumen in their Baſons againſt the walls of their incloſures, or in their mud, poſſibly there are not ſuch matters inflamed within the Earth that have heated thoſe waters; it being more probable,that ſuch waters contract their heat by the mixture of ſome hot waters they meet with in the deep places where they paſs;and experience proving, that no combuſtible matter takes fire, or any conſiderable time keeps it without Air; and that,to extinguiſh the fire of ſulphurs and bitums inflamed, there needs no more than to exclude the Air from them. And if any matter (as Gun-powder in mines) takes fire ſtrong enough not to be chok'd under ground, it burſts what covers it, thereby to be enlarged , and to take Air.

If there be no conſtant ſubterraneal Fires, the heat of ſome Mineral waters,which continue to be hot in their ſources, cannot be aſcribed to them. 'Tis more likely, that in many places of the Earth there are hot vapors, the heat of which is conſerv'd in deep and cloſe places, where the Air hath no acceſs to cool them, and where thoſe rarified matters have not room enough to be more rarified, and ſo to become leſs hot or more diſſipated. And that ſuch hot vapors are the cauſe of hot Springs and natural Baths, may be confirmed hence: 1. Becauſe theſe hot Mineral waters do not burn the mouth of thoſe that drink of them at the iſſue of their ſources, as common water would do heated by fire to the ſame degree: Which ſeems to proceed from the thinneſs of the matter that cauſes this heat in the water. And the flame of ſpirit of wine doth not ſo ſtrongly burn the hand, as a live coal would do. 2. Becauſe the heat of Mineral waters works not upon certain tender ſubſtances, as doth that of common water, which is contracted by fire in the ſame intenſeneſs: For, whereas the leaves of Sorrel (*e.g.*) are ſoftn'd and quickly boyled in common water moderately heated by fire, they did not ſo in the Mineral waters of *Nery* in the Country of *Bourbon*, which are the hotteſt in all *France*; but they only changed colour and became yellowiſh. 3. Becauſe the Mineral waters have no greater diſpoſition to boyl upon the fire,than common cold waters, there being as much time requiſite for the one as the other to make them boyl upon the fire,*&c.*

Mean time, 'tis not ſo obvious to know the *Qualities* of theſe vapors thus heating the Mineral waters. It ſeems not neceſſary, they ſhould *all* be Bituminous or Sulphureous,though *ſome* be ſo. There are many other ſubſtances that grow hot without taking fire, and the vapors of which mix themſelves in hot Mineral waters, but the qualities of which are not diſcern'd but by the effects which they produce.

As for the different Effects of the Mineral waters, both hot, tepid and cold, in reference to *Health*, the Pariſian Academy left the obſervations

thereof

thereof to Phyſicians: But as to their Uſes in *Mechanical Arts*, they take notice of what ſome or other of them perform (*e.g.*) in the maceration of Hemp, in the whitening of Linnen, in the tincture of Wool and Silk, in the dreſſing of Leather, in the tempering of Iron, in the boyling of Legums, in the watering of Plants, in the drinking of Cattel, and the like.

Touching the obſervations of their different *Weights* and *Conſiſtences*, they intimate, that they can be better made at the ſpring-head, where they have not been alter'd in their compoſition, nor conſiſtence. However they deſcribe the particular Inſtruments by them employed for obſervations of this nature.

III. *COCHLEARIA Curioſa, or the Curioſities of* Scurvy-graſs, *written in Latin by Dr.* Andr. Molimbrochius *of* Leipſig, *and Engliſh'd by Dr.* Th. Sherley *Phyſician in ordinary to his Majeſty.* London, *in* 8o. *1676.*

THE Ingenious Interpreter of this Book being of opinion, that the Author hath handled the Subject thereof ſo fully, that there remains little more to be ſaid upon it than what he hath taken notice of, and being deſirous that thoſe of his Countrymen who are unacquainted with the Latin tongue might reap the benefit of it as well as Scholars, thought good to employ thoſe hours of vacancy, allow'd him from other buſineſs, to put it into *Engliſh.* Therein the Reader will find not only a Deſcription of the ſeveral kinds of this Plant, with its ſeveral Names, Place and Time of growth, temperature, and general vertues, but alſo an enumeration of the particular uſes, medicinal vertues, and manner of applying each part of this Plant; together with a good deſcription of all ſorts of Medicines preparable from it, either by the Galenick or Chymical way: Beſides that it will inſtruct all ſorts of perſons, how to make Wines, Sauces, Syrups, and diſtill'd waters of this Plant, for the good of their ſick and languiſhing neighbours.

IV. *Two Treatiſes; the one, Medical, of the GOVT; by* Herman Buſſchof *Senior, of* Utrecht, *reſiding at* Batavia *in the Eaſt-Indies; the other, partly Chirurgical, partly Medical, containing ſome Obſervations and Practices relating to ſome Extraordinary Caſes of Women in Travel, and to ſome other uncommon Caſes of Diſeaſes in both Sexes; by* Hen. van Roonhuyſe, *Phyſician in ordinary at* Amſterdam. *Engliſh'd out of Dutch.* London *in* 8o. *1676.*

THE Author of the *firſt* of theſe two Treatiſes, after he hath given us his thoughts of the true *nature* of the Gout, making it, in its true origin, a little inward ſwelling within the *perioſtium* or membran that covers the bones, cauſed from a dry and cold ill-natur'd vapour, driven thither out of the arteries, and by being there incloſed, diſtending that moſt ſenſible membran, and ſo producing violent pains; after, I ſay, he hath deliver'd this as the nature of this Diſeaſe, and withal examin'd all other opinions hitherto received of the ſame; He is very particular, from Experience, both made upon himſelf and others, in deſcribing the *Cure* of the Gout, and that by burning with a ſoft and woolly ſubſtance, call'd *Moxa*, made by a ſkilful preparation of a certain dried Herb, highly valued by the *Chineſes* and *Japoneſes*; of which he ſent over a quantity to his Brother at *Vtrecht*, from whence Mr. *Pitt* in St. *Pauls Church-yard* hath procured a parcel for the uſe of thoſe that are deſirous to employ it, not only for this purpoſe of curing the *Gout*, but alſo for that of removing the *Epilepſie*, *Madneſs*, and *Catalepſis*.

The *other* Treatiſe contains ſeveral happy cures of ſtrange ruptures and other remarkable accidents of the *Womb*; the manner of performing the *Ceſarean Section*, of curing the falling down of the womb, of curing wombs cloſed, and ſeveral cloſures of the *Vagina uteri*; of a happy cure of a Child's fundament cloſed, and of the Rupture of a Bladder; of the firm Union of the *dura mater* to the ſkull; of the modern Uſe and Abuſe of *Trepanning*, which is here ſhew'd not to be ſo often neceſſary, nor uſeful, as is commonly pretended; of grievous wounds in the Head, well cured without the Trepan; of the manner of cutting *Hare-mouths*, and ſeveral ſucceſsful operations thereof; of the happy cure of a wounded *Nerve*; and of an uncommon cure perform'd upon a woman, out of whoſe thigh a great piece of the bone was ſeparated, without ſhortning her leg, or hindring the motion of her going.

V. *New and Curious Obſervations of the Art of Curing the* VENEREAL *DISEASE*, &c. *Written in French by M. de* Blegny, *Chirurgion to the French Queen*; *Engliſh't by* Walter Harrys, *M.D. lately Fellow of New Colledge in Oxford.* London, 1676. *in* 8o.

THE Ingenious Author, and the Learn'd and diligent Interpreter of this piece have repreſented unto us therein the Nature, Origine, Cauſes, Differences, Signs and Prognoſticks of this Diſtemper; and given us divers conſiderable Obſervations on the Means to cure the ſame when it is but Particular, (that is, fixt to ſome parts) as alſo on the Natural and Critical Motions, when it turns to be Univerſal, and hath infected the whole body; and likewiſe on the Means ſerving to raiſe the Artificial *Criſis* of it; together with an explication of the true Method of artificially raiſing the *Criſes* of the Univerſal Pox.

That which ſeems moſt peculiar to this Book is, that the Author pretends to have eſtabliſhed the Cauſe of the Pox upon Principles wholly new; *viz.* the Mixture and Confuſion of the *ſemen* of many different perſons, which at length exert their activities in this heterogeneous fermentation, degenerating into ſuch a high malignancy as this Diſeaſe carries with it. But though the Author renders a New Cauſe of this Malady, yet hath he the teſtimony of the Medical Faculty of *Paris*, that they have not found any thing in his Method of Curing, that is not conformable to ancient received Maxims; they judging withal, that the New Obſervations, which it doth contain, will ſerve to increaſe an emulation, for the future, towards a more diligent ſearch of the truth of things leſs known.

Errata left un-corrected in *Numb.* 124.

Pag. 579. l. 7. r. *Ionique order*. p. 585. l. 8. r. *'Tis beſt from*. ibid. l. 13. r. *if the winter do not overtake us*. p. 587. l. 2. r. *the Bees delight*. ibid. l. 6. r. *of green fillets*. ibid. l. 12. for, *in Angelica*, put a *full point* inſtead of *in*.

London, Printed for *John Martyn*, Printer to the *Royal Society*,
at the *Bell* in St. *Pauls Church-yard*. 1676.